

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/EP2004/000798

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 G06F1/00 G06F1/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 IPC 7 G06F G07C G04G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

| Category | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
|----------|--|-----------------------|
| X        | US 2003/004875 A1 (KRAMER GERALD ARTHUR ET AL) 2 January 2003 (2003-01-02)<br>page 2, paragraph 28<br>page 6, paragraph 53<br>page 7, paragraph 65<br>page 8, paragraph 67 – paragraph 74<br>— | 1-9                   |
| X        | US 6 470 449 B1 (BLANDFORD ROBERT ROY) 22 October 2002 (2002-10-22)<br>column 5, line 48<br>column 6, line 37 – line 60<br>—   | 1-9                   |
| A        | US 6 393 263 B1 (HAYASHI KEISAKU) 21 May 2002 (2002-05-21)<br>the whole document<br>—  | 1                     |

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

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- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

4 May 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

24/05/2004

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| Patent document cited in search report |    | Publication date |  | Patent family member(s)   |  | Publication date   |
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| US 6470449                             | B1 | 22-10-2002       | US<br>US<br>US<br>AU<br>CA<br>EP<br>WO<br>WO | 5347579 A<br>5189700 A<br>6442691 B1<br>6354894 A<br>2156604 A1<br>0746922 A1<br>9419884 A1<br>9212485 A1 |  | 13-09-1994<br>23-02-1993<br>27-08-2002<br>14-09-1994<br>01-09-1994<br>11-12-1996<br>01-09-1994<br>23-07-1992 |
| US 6393263                             | B1 | 21-05-2002       | JP<br>JP                                     | 3225915 B2<br>11234758 A  |  | 05-11-2001<br>27-08-1999   |